RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JAN 0 5 2006

Doc Code: AP.PRE.REQ

PTO/SB/33 (07-05)
Approved for use through xx/xx/200x. OMB 0651-00xx
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Docket Number (Optional) PRE-APPEAL BRIEF REQUEST FOR REVIEW PERY 2 00002 I hereby cartify that this correspondence is being deposited with the Application Number United States Postal Service with oufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Mait Stop AF, Commissioner for 09/768,129 January 23, 2001 First Named Inventor Michael Weiss Art Unit Examiner Typed or printed 3628 E.G. Milef ELAINE M. CHEORVICH пате. Applicant requests review of the final rejection in the above-identified application. No amendments are being filed with this request. This request is being filed with a notice of appeal. The review is requested for the reason(s) stated on the attached sheet(s). Note: No more than five (5) pages may be provided. I am the applicant/inventor. assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. John S. Zanghi (Form PTO/SB/96) Typed or printed name X 216-861-5582 altomey or agent of record. 48,843 Registration number Telephone number attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34. Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34 Date NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*. *Total of _ forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 35 U.S.C. 132. The Information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) en application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11, 1.14 and 41.6. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mall Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JAN 0 5 2006

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR(S)

: Michael Weiss, et al.

TITLE

: CACHING MECHANISM TO OPTIMIZE A BIDDING PROCESS USED TO SELECT RESOURCES

AND SERVICES

APPLICATION NO.

: 09/768,129

FILED

: January 23, 2001

CONFIRMATION NO.

: 3324

EXAMINER

: E.G. Milef

ART UNIT

: 3628

LAST OFFICE ACTION

: December 14, 2005

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

: PERY 2 00002

Cleveland, OH 44114 January 5, 2006

REQUEST FOR PRE-APPEAL BRIEF CONFERENCE

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

Applicants respectfully request a pre-appeal brief conference insofar as the Examiner's rejections contain both clear factual errors and clear legal errors, as explained more fully below.

1. <u>Clear Factual Errors</u>

First, the Examiner has refuted applicants' argument that Baindur (US 6,073,176) fails to teach or suggest "Resource Adapters for providing a uniform interface to access APIs of said resources" as recited in claim 1. In support of his refutation, the Examiner notes that Baindur discloses "interfaces with various servers and clients" implemented "using a different programming methodology" that nonetheless perform "that which is described in claim 1." Yet, the Examiner has not in any way identified where in Baindur the "interfaces with various servers and clients" provide "a uniform interface to access APIs of said resources," as recited in claim 1.

Second, the Resource Adapters of applicants' claim 1 include a Caching Adapter "for maintaining cached bids for predetermined contexts." The Examiner does not contest applicants' submission that Baindur does not teach or suggest this recited feature. Indeed, the words "cache" or "cached" do not appear anywhere in the Baindur citation. However, the Examiner dismisses this shortcoming by stating simply that all computer systems use cache systems "including the "dynamic" bidding system taught by Baindur." While caching systems are well known in the computer arts, applicants respectfully submit that the use of a Caching Adapter "for maintaining cached bids for predetermined contexts" is completely unknown in the art and, as indicated above, is completely absent from Baindur.

2. Clear Legal Error

The Examiner has traversed applicants' argument that his conclusion of

obviousness is based upon improper hindsight reasoning by noting that "so long as [the hindsight reconstruction] takes into account only knowledge which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made, and does not include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure, such a reconstruction is proper," citing *In Re McLaughlin*, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971). From the arguments presented under "Clear Factual Errors," it is clear that the use of a Caching Adapter within a multi-agent caching system "for maintaining cached bids for predetermined contexts" falls squarely into the realm of "knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure." Therefore, the Examiner's legal reasoning is manifestly wrong.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP

John S. Zanghi, Reg. No. 48,843
1100 Superior Avenue, Seventh Floor
Cleveland, OH 44114-2579
216-861-5582

deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, addressed to: MAIL STOP AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below. □ deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addresses" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 on the date indicated below. □ deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addresses" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: MAIL STOP AF, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
Express Mail Label No.:	Signature Elaine M. Alexand
Date 0/-05 - 06	Printed Name Elaine M. Checovich

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION